



Reservoir High School
Piano Class
Syllabus and Grading Policy
Dr. Knauf



OBJECTIVES

The goals of this course are to develop fundamental piano performance technique, increase knowledge of musical terminology, style, theory, and history, and to strengthen the musical reading and listening skills of each individual. These goals will be met through ensemble and individual exploration of the piano keyboard, musical exercises, and piano literature, as well as through class ear training/music theory. In addition to the development of musical abilities, it is hoped that through active participation in the class and music program in general, students will develop positive attitudes toward themselves and others and a strong spirit of cooperation.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Pencil
- Folder (for keeping handouts and music organized)
- Notebook
- Method book and supplementary music assigned

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

- **RESPECT** should be shown to each and every member of the class; support and encourage each other in every way possible, especially during class performances.
- Much class time will be spent practicing individually; you are expected to work only on the work assigned. Off-task behavior will result in a lowering of your grade. Occasionally, time will be given for free playing.
- Music and textbooks are the property of the school and should be returned in the best possible condition. Students will be charged to replace damaged or lost music/books.
- The electronic keyboards must be used with care to ensure they last many years. Be respectful of the many other students who will be using the keyboards by keeping the keyboards in excellent condition. Misuse of a keyboard may result in the loss of keyboard privileges for a determined amount of time or even removal from the class. Damage to an instrument will be repaired/replaced at the cost of the student as agreed to on the instrumental release form.
- Each student should plan on practicing regularly outside of class; arrangements may be made to work in the music lab after school or during lunch if a teacher is available to supervise. If you do not own a keyboard at home, see if a friend or place of worship has one you could borrow or on which you could practice.
- **No food or drink** is allowed in the classroom, *including water*. One spill can permanently damage a keyboard. No gum. Please discard gum before entering the lab.
- The RHS Cell Phone, Disc Man, Walk Man, headphones, and hat policy will be enforced. The use or display of these items during the school day is **PROHIBITED**, and they will be confiscated and turned in to the front office.

ABSCENCES

A note must be received from the parent/guardian explaining the absence/tardiness of a student must be received by the school within **two school days** of the student's return or the absence/tardiness will be coded as **unlawful**. Per county policy, for an excused absence, a student may make up work and receive credit. However, for an unexcused absence, a student may make up work but will **not** receive credit.

LATENESS

Students should be in their assigned seats with a pencil, the keyboard power on, and method book on the music rack *by the sound of the late bell*. Penalties for violations include:

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|---------|---|
| First: | Warning, student/teacher |
| Second: | Break detention |
| Third: | After school detention |
| Fourth: | Referral to administrator for 6:45 am detention |

DISCIPLINARY POLICY

It is the expectation that each student in piano class participate in a positive and constructive manner. A student who creates disruptions, mistreats equipment, behaves in a negative or non-courteous manner to any fellow student or the teacher, or fails to follow the class expectations will earn the following consequences:

First Violation:	Verbal Warning, student/teacher
Second:	Removal from the lab, loss of keyboard privileges, 0 points earned
Third:	After school detention, phone call to parent
Fourth:	Referral to administrator

GRADING POLICY

I. Class Participation/Practice Skills 35%

Students will earn points for class participation and practice skills according to the following rubric:

Points earned	Practice Skills
10	Student is on time. Excellent participation: stays on task. Excellent preparation: has music and pencil.
9	Excused tardy with excellent participation: stays on task. Excellent preparation: has music and pencil.
7-8	Unexcused tardy with excellent participation OR Good participation overall: stays mostly on task. Fair preparation: no pencil. Chewing gum, eating food, or drinking in the lab.
5-6	Poor preparation: no music, folder, or notebook. Fair participation: is often off task.
1-4	Student is unprepared: no music or pencil Poor participation: frequently off task.
0	Lack of participation Student is absent (excused absence can be made up, unexcused absence cannot be made up)

II. Performance Tests 25%

Student will be assigned material for regular in-class performances. Dr. Knauf will evaluate the student's proficiency according to rhythmic accuracy, correct notes, tempo, technique, and overall musicality.

III. Written Classwork and Homework 20%

IV. Written Quizzes and Tests 20%

Unless indicated by Dr. Knauf, all work, in and out of class, should be done individually. Refer to the Academic Honor Code for more information regarding cheating and plagiarism.

GRADING SCALE

90 – 100 % = A, 80 – 89 % = B, 70 – 79 % = C, 60 – 69 % = D, 0 – 59 % = E

CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: www.rhsmusic.com

You will find a lot of useful information on this site, including syllabus and grading policies and the music calendar.

E-mail: gknauf@hcpss.org

Feel free to contact me regarding any questions you might have or to notify me of any known absences.
Music Department phone: 410-888-8864

Piano Class Syllabus

Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus to the director, confirming that you have read and understood the expectations and policies of the Reservoir High School Piano Class Syllabus and Grading Policy.

Student Name (print)

Date

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date